

















## TELEGRAMS.

(REUTERS' SERVICE.)

LONDON, 5th June, 1901.

## THE POWERS IN CHINA.

The Telegraph's Washington correspondent states that Germany, Great Britain, and France will guarantee the points between Peking and the sea.

## BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.

## THE VLAKFONTEIN FIGHT.

The casualty lists of the recent fighting at Vlakfontein, show that the 28th Field Battery lost six killed and twelve wounded. Lord Kitchener reports two more Boer officers killed and one missing in the Vlakfontein fight.

## FRANCE AND THE CHINESE INDEMNITY QUESTION.

M. Delcassé, speaking in the Chamber, said that he favoured a common guarantee for the Chinese indemnity, because all the Powers would then be interested in maintaining the integrity of China.

## LATE TELEGRAMS.

## Big Chinese Loan.

London, May 17.—It is stated in the City that a Chinese loan of 500 millions sterling, internationally guaranteed, has been practically arranged to be issued as soon as affairs in China have quieted down.

## The Tientsin Bridge Incident.

General Von Lessel, Commanding the Germans at Tientsin, has replied to General Campbell's protest regarding the Tientsin incident. He says that it will not be repeated as far as the firing is concerned. His reply has been forwarded to Sir R. Sater.

## Johannesburg's New Town Council.

A Proclamation issued at Pretoria establishes a provisional Municipality at Johannesburg, and the Town Council is to be nominated by the Governor.

## Trophy for Duke of Cornwall.

A trophy of Australian gold and New South Wales diamonds has been presented to the Duke of Cornwall, who, in thanking the donors, said he required no memento of his never-to-be-forgotten reception.

## Army Reform.

In the House of Commons last night, Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman's amendment that Mr. St. John Brodrick's Military proposals were not adapted to the wants of the Empire, and that any undue increase of armaments might be provocative, was rejected by 327 against 211 votes.

## Mr. St. John Brodrick's resolution approving of the Military proposals of the Government was then adopted by 305 against 163 votes.

Mr. Balfour, arguing against the necessity of demonstrating the hopelessness of the possibility of a descent upon England, mentioned that there was a moment, at the end of 1899, when only 3,000 rounds of rifle ammunition were in England, and no reserves of Artillery ammunition.

## The papers generally praise Mr. St. John Brodrick's strong speech last night; but they continue to criticise the scheme, though expressing reliance on the present given that it may be modified in details.

The voting has been strictly on party lines, but some Unionists have abstained from voting.

The Daily Telegraph says that the Committee appointed by Mr. Brodrick last December, to consider the arrangements at the War Office, and the possibility of further decentralisation of work, with a view to the more expeditious and effective discharge of the duties of the War Office, has recommended a scheme almost revolutionary in its character.

## THE HARD CASE OF A RECTOR.

Recently the Rev. Frederick Wilson Cooper, Rector of Preshilch, near Manchester, whose stipend is £1,200 a year, petitioned the Church Council to top off £1,000 to be used as for Church purposes.

The Council refused to accept his gift, despite the rector's plea that the surplus £2,000 was a serious hindrance to his work. A poor but merry laundress remarked that he should be "laid" taking the risk of leaving his work "laid" in the same way.

The Council tempered their refusal with the remark that they should not be responsible for spending the £2,000.

In these circumstances, reports a home paper, Mr. Cooper has written to his parishioners, assuring them that he will still have his pay, by having £2,000 paid into his private bank account, and the £1,000 paid into another account for the good of the Church. He wishes the Council had refused him the £2,000, and writes that the Church history of the future days will relate how hard was done by the strange anomalies in official incomes; that while the great majority of the parochial clergy were in poverty there were a few whose income was more like that of a squire than a parish priest.

Though, as the rector states, the Church Council has declined it in the kindest manner, to help him, he is still of opinion that it is better to have the £2,000 "laid" in the same way than to have it "laid" in the same way.

It is rumored that his parishioners may come individually and collectively to the rector's assistance.

This reminds us of a case that happened in Hongkong only a few years ago. A Government servant, whose colleague had united in a petition for increase of salary, petitioned that his should be reduced, as his salary was higher than was justified by the nature of the work he had to perform.

—Ed. C. M.

Venezuela will find around until she at Venice. Pirene Morgan (entirely), she doesn't watch out.

A Time for Everything.—An Irish Officer admitted that he was a "time" for everything, but he was not a "time" for anything else.

Insulting people but I was of the old and citizen's clothes, sir? Police Commissioner: "That is just the point, when you are off duty and in citizen's clothes you are no more right getting drunk and insulting people than anybody else's."

In the treatment of Cerebral Palsy, a disease, as the name implies, of the brain, may be taken with benefit, the patient should be kept in a cool, airy room, and the essential treatment should be that of COD LIVER OIL. Ours is pure and tasteless. Sold by all Chemists, Grocers and Retail Druggists. J. W. & Co. Ltd.

## THE PLAGUE.

The cooler weather experienced since yesterday seems to have had a restraining effect on the plague epidemic. Instead of the usual daily 20 to 30 cases, the Sanitary officers are only able to total 11 cases for the period from noon yesterday till noon to-day. This is indeed a most gratifying report to make in view of the fact that for months back the returns have shown a steady increase. Dr. Harston notified another European case to-day, that of an infant residing at Wild Dell, Wanchai. We understand that the little sufferer is to be treated in his own home. Last night an Eurasian apprentice engineer named Braid, who is employed at Cosmopolitan Dock, was also reported to be afflicted with the disease. He had been, we hear, residing since Monday at the China Expeditionary Force's Base Post Office at Scandal Point, and was removed from there to Hospital. He was sleeping along with three of the Indian Post Office staff, friends of his. The record of deaths was 14 (all Chinese). To date, there have been 1048 cases and 300 deaths.

## CHINA AND THE POWERS.

## News from Peking.

The Peking correspondent of the N. O. Daily News writes on the 22nd May, after describing the departure of the American troops—Everyone is now on the tip of the expectation. If only the Chinese were wise they would seek Peking untroubled. The Russians went away early. They had their own axe to grind. The Americans have now left. The French have already left. True things delay the speedy completion of the arrangements. One is that the Chinese are prying in the fulfilment of Articles 2 and 10 of the Protocol. The other is that the Boxers are again assuming the aggressive in the south of the Province.

## The Pacification of Chihli.

The following *Der Ostasienische Lloyd* telegram is dated Peking, May 29.—The Commander of Chihli, announced that the new Boxer troubles in South Chihli are now finished. The French General Bailly crushed the rebels entirely on the 21st of May near Shentze and Anping. He returned then to Paofoing. The Germans were not adapted to the wants of the Empire, and that any undue increase of armaments might be provocative, was rejected by 327 against 211 votes. The Germans withdrew their troops from Faping and Chiaoan, and all districts north of Peking. It is reported from Kalgai that everything is quiet there.

## THE FIRE AT BEACONSFIELD ARCADE.

## Inquiry at the Magistracy.

Yesterday afternoon, before Mr. Hazledine, Acting Police Magistrate, an inquiry was held as to the circumstances connected with the recent fire, on the 21st ult., at the Beaconfield Arcade, No. 4 Beaconsfield Arcade. Mr. Hastings, solicitor, attended on behalf of the owners of the shop, and Mr. Robertson, barrister-at-law, watched the case on behalf of the Commercial Union Insurance Company.

Edward de Rosa, part owner of the Beaconfield Arcade, was examined. He said he started business on 1st February last. Assisting him in the shop were his brother, a Portuguese who died three days after the fire, and a Chinese. The shop was closed at a quarter past eight on the evening of the 21st ult., witnesses going to the Victoria Hotel and thence to his house in Wanchai, which he reached at a quarter to nine.

The first intimation witness had of the fire was when he went to open the shop next morning; he had heard nothing about it during the night. The time for opening the shop was from a quarter to eight to eight o'clock. On opening the door, witness found the shop burned out and an Indian policeman in charge. When witness closed up on the previous night, all the lights were turned out. This total value of the stock and fittings was about \$20,000. (This sum was afterwards modified to \$27,000). The inventory produced was approximately a true and correct one of the stock and fittings. Since 1st February about \$400 worth of goods had been sold. Witness could suggest no theory as to how the fire had occurred. It was possible, he said, and already told an inspector of police, that the bottles of paraffin exploded and set fire to the premises. All paraffin was liable to explode in warm weather. Witness was insured in the Commercial Union Insurance Company, to which company he had given notice of the liability of the paraffin to explode. The brother took a bottle of the lotion "De Rosa" to the company's office to show that it was dangerous. Witness had put in a claim for \$25,000. On the day before the fire the Sanitary authorities disinfected the shop, and left in the middle of the door an earthenware bucket full of an effluvia-scented disinfectant. The shop was then closed by the sanitary authorities and witness and his assistants fled to his sister's house.

His witness—Does it appear that he had anything to do with it?

Witness continued, said his special job was to combine kerosene. He also sold kerosene, a product of the Government, which was sold in Hongkong from Shanghai, and the kerosene was brought with him to his house. He sold kerosene in his house, and he sold kerosene in his house. He sold kerosene in his house, and he sold kerosene in his house.

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## TENEMENT-HOUSE REFORM.

## Action taken in New York.

The investigation of New York tenements, carried on during recent months by the tenement-house commission and the lately appointed committee of fifteen, crystallized a few days ago in four bills passed by the New York Legislature and signed by Governor Odell. These new laws, remarks the Brooklyn *Times*, will work a revolution in the houses of this kind erected hereafter, even if they do not actually prevent altogether the erection of such houses for the poor. Mr. Robert W. De Forest, chairman of the tenement-house commission, thus summarizes the most important provisions of the new measures:

"The principal reform that the new law will bring will be more light and air to the dwellers in tenements, the doing away with dark interior rooms and cellar rooms, and the sanitary appliances for every family, proper protection against fire, and proper enforcement of the laws in regard to tenement houses in the city. This will be accomplished by the appointment of a tenement-house department which the acts provide for."

"Probably the gravest evil resulting from the present tenement-house system arises from a lack of proper sanitary supervision. The number of sanitary inspectors is wholly inadequate. The health department has authority to do but little to improve the sanitary conditions in the tenements. The law in regard to the building of new tenements recently has not been enforced. Out of 333 tenements recently constructed only 10 were found to comply with the law."

"One of the chief reasons why tenement-house reform has been a failure in New York for many years is the fact that there are not enough sanitary inspectors to see that the law is enforced. At present the enforcement of the laws in regard to tenement houses is divided among the health department, the building department, the police department, and the fire department. The tenement-house department will have full control of the enforcement of the laws, and the commissioner at its head will be the one man whom the people of New York will hold directly responsible for any violations."

"The bill creating the tenement-house department provides that the head of the department, who shall be called the tenement-house commissioner, shall be appointed by the mayor and shall hold office subject to removal by the mayor. His salary will be \$7,500 annually, and he will be bonded of \$20,000 for a faithful performance of his duties."

"Under the new law, continues Mr. De Forest, every tenement over five stories in height must be fireproof, and fire escapes consisting of open stairways and balconies must be built in the front of every non-fireproof tenement. A tenement-house six feet high must have rear yards twelve feet in depth, and an additional foot must be added for every twelve feet in the height of the building. No rear tenement can be erected at a less than fifty feet in width. What are at present known as air-sheds, situated between wings or parts of the same building, must be at least ten feet wide in a house sixty feet in height. The total window area in the rooms must be at least one-tenth of the superficial area of the room, and each room must have at least 120 square feet of floor area. All these provisions go into effect immediately; the contracts made under the old laws hold good."

## THE NEED OF MUNICIPAL FREEDOM.

## HONGKONG.

## BY 'SCRUTATOR.'

## With Leading Articles and Correspondence therefrom from the 'HONGKONG DAILY PRESS' and 'CHINA MAIL.'

Price 20 Cents per Copy or 5 Copies for \$1.

ON SALE AT LOCAL NEWS AGENTS, AND H. RUTSON'S KOWLOON STORE.

Hongkong, June 3, 1901. 1179

## Opium Quotations.

(HONGKONG, JUNE 5, 1901.)

New Putna, cash, 802 1/2

Old Putna, cash, 975

New Benares, cash, 960

Old Benares, cash, 975

New Malwa, cash, 800/340

Old Malwa, cash, 815/28

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## Intimations.

## NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 306.

## CHINA SEA.

## TIENTSIN DISTRICT.

## Alteration in Character of Two-Station Light.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Character of the Light on Two-Station Island (located on the Admiralty Charts as Shu-lu-tian) has been changed.

The new Light is Dioptric, Group-flashing, of the Fourth Order, showing double white flashes at intervals of 10 seconds.

The Light is elevated 51 feet above the level of the sea and in clear weather it should be visible at a distance of 12 nautical miles.

The height of the tower from base to lantern vault has been increased to 67 feet. By order of the Inspector General of Customs, A. M. BISBEE, Coast Inspector.

## NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 131 SPECIAL.

## SHANGHAI DISTRICT.

## TSUNGMING CROSSING.

## Channel Shading and Narrowing.

NOTICE is hereby given that at the present time there is a depth of only 16 feet at low water of spring tides in the best track between the First Crossing Buoy and the Second Crossing Buoy, which track is from 50 to 100 yards to the northward of the line of these two buoys.

A general shading and narrowing of the channel over this crossing is taking place. A. M. BISBEE, Coast Inspector.

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